

DUTCHTOWN TREATMENT PLANT (Ascension Parish) LOUISIANA



EPA REGION 6 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 6

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Background

The Dutchtown Site is located near Dutchtown in Ascension Parish, Louisiana, at the intersection of I-10 and Louisiana Highway 74. Historical land use is unknown prior to the establishment of the oil refinery and waste oil reclamation facility in the mid-1960s. The site received waste oil and other waste materials (solvents and petrochemical wastes) from offsite sources, processed them, and redistributed them. The 5-acre plot, contained a 0.8-acre holding pond, a 0.07-acre waste oil pit, seven aboveground vertical storage tanks, two small horizontal tanks, and a railroad tank car used as a horizontal tank. The State of Louisiana ordered the suspension and proper closure of operations at the site in August 1983. On January 17, 1984, the State declared the site abandoned after failure by facility owners to properly close the site in accordance with regulations.



An emergency response to clean up a spill that resulted from vandalism to the rail tank car and finished oil storage tank was required in March 1987. The site was proposed for inclusion on the NPL on January 22, 1987. On March 25, 1988, EPA issued an action memorandum to perform an emergency response action (ERA). The ERA was conducted from January through August 1991. It involved the removal of 449,810 gallons of waste oil from the holding pond, waste oil pit, and storage tanks, as well as the removal and treatment of 3,451,999 gallons of storm water from the pits and holding ponds. Seepage of contaminated groundwater into the excavated pond led to the installation of a french drain that would enable recovery and treatment of groundwater during the remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS) phase. A total of 75,792 gallons of groundwater was recovered through August 1992. The pond and pit were backfilled with 4,400 cubic yards of fly ash-stabilized soil.

Following the completion of the ERA, compacted caps of imported clay were installed over the backfilled holding pond, the french drain in the excavated waste oil pit, and the areas previously occupied by the storage tanks. The compacted clay cap is 18 inches over the backfilled holding pond and waste oil pit and 6 inches over the areas occupied by the storage tanks. The site was also surrounded by a 6-foot chain link fence with three strands of barbed-wire along the top.

The principal pollutants on the site were benzene, ethylbenzene, toluene, xylene, and lead.

The land surrounding the Dutchtown Site is primarily zoned as residential and commercial property. The Dutchtown Middle School is located ½ mile to the west of the site. The reported population within a 1-mile radius of the site was 1,836, of which approximately 369 people were within the Dutchtown community.

The Record of Decision (ROD) was signed in 1994. The selected remedy included: monitoring

groundwater, implementing contingency measures, implementing institutional controls (ICs), installing additional monitoring wells, and maintaining the existing cap and fence.

The site was deleted from the NPL on November 16, 1999.

Current Status

The site is currently in operation & maintenance where monitoring of ground water will continue to ensure protectiveness of the EPA cleanup actions.

A Conveyance Notification was filed by Ascension Holding Company L.L.C. on June 9, 2006, with the Ascension Clerk of Court, which describes the status of the property and what potential uses of the property would be protective.

EPA has completed a Third Five Year Review in August 2011. The Third Five Year Review found that the remedy that was implemented is protective of human health and the environment.

Property adjacent to the site is being considered for development into residential housing. This development may generate interest into reuse of at least some of the site.



Benefits

The emergency actions taken to prevent overflow of a contaminated lagoon, cleanup of a diesel fuel spill and capping over a contaminated area at the site have limited the spread of contaminated wastes and greatly lessened the potential for exposure to contaminants at the site, reducing environmental risk for approximately 4,000 people living within 3 miles of the site.

National Priorities Listing (NPL) History

NPL Inclusion Proposal Date:	January 22, 1987
NPL Inclusion Final Date:	July 22, 1987
NPL Deletion Proposal Date:	September 17, 1999
NPL Deletion Final Date:	November 16, 1999

Site Description

- Location:
 - Dutchtown, Ascension Parish, Louisiana.
 - Location at the juncture I-10 and Highway 74.
- Population:
 - 4,000 people live within three miles of the site.
- Setting:
 - Site had ten storage tanks, a rail car tanker, a 0.07 acre oil pit, and a 0.8 acre holding pond containing oil and water.
 - Site area is five acres.
- Photos: [March 2007](#)

- Hydrology:
 - shallow water bearing zone at 7-12 ft. depth residually contaminated (zone unused).
 - deeper water bearing zone at 30-35 ft. not contaminated (zone unused).
 - alluvial aquifer at 100-300 ft depths not contaminated (zone used).
 - Gonzales aquifer at 300-1000 ft depth not contaminated (zone used).

Wastes and Volumes

- The principal pollutants on the site are benzene, ethylbenzene, toluene, xylene, and lead.
- 449,810 gallons of waste oil from the holding pond, waste oil pit, and tanks were recovered, blended, and shipped off site for incineration.
- 3,451,999 gallons of storm water from the waste oil pit and the holding pond were treated on site in the water treatment unit.
- 4,500 cubic yards of soil were treated by soil washing on site, stabilized with fly ash, and placed as backfill into the pond and pit.

Site Contacts

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